

CHAPTER NO. 165

SENATE BILL NO. 386

By Person, Crowe

Substituted for: House Bill No. 335

By Buck

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 14, relative to public defenders and investigators.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-202(c), is amended by adding the following new language to the end of the subsection:

Notwithstanding any other restrictions, attorneys with pending private legal matters at the time of employment with the office of district public defender shall have a reasonable length of time to conclude or transfer such cases in keeping with the standards of professional and ethical conduct.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-207(b)(3), is amended by deleting the second sentence in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

Subject to the approval of the district public defender, assistant district public defenders shall be entitled to the same prior service credits as allowed assistant district attorneys general in § 8-7-227.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-207(c)(3), is amended by deleting the second sentence in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

Subject to the approval of the district public defender, district investigators shall be entitled to the same prior service credits as allowed criminal investigators for the district attorneys general in § 8-7-231.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-207(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-14-205(h), is amended by adding the following new language to the end of the subsection:

District public defenders shall be authorized access to query state and federal criminal records history information as the duties of their office may require.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 6, 1999


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 17th day of May 1999


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR